

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously presented) A recombinant nucleic acid encoding a Mkinase protein, comprising the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) A recombinant nucleic acid encoding a Mkinase protein, wherein said Mkinase comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

28. (Previously presented) A recombinant nucleic acid according to Claim 25 or 27, further comprising a fusion partner.

29. (Previously presented) An expression vector, comprising a recombinant nucleic acid according to Claims 25 or 27 operably linked to a regulatory sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the nucleic acid.

30. (Previously presented) A host cell comprising a nucleic acid according to Claims 25 or 27.

31. (Previously presented) A host cell comprising an expression vector according to Claim 29.

32. (Previously presented) A process for producing a Mkinase protein, comprising culturing a host cell according to Claim 30 or 31 under conditions suitable for expression of said Mkinase protein.

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33. (Previously presented) A process according to Claim 32, further comprising recovering said Mkinase protein.